



# The Grapevine

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE JEFFERSON PARK NEIGHBORS ASSOCIATION

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November/December 2009

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## Winter Progressive Dinner: Saturday, December 5

It's that time of the year... Time for the 2009 Jefferson Park Holiday Progressive Dinner. At this time I'm calling on four lucky neighbors who would like to open their homes as hosts for the Holiday Progressive Dinner. We need cocktails / appetizer house, soup / salad house, entree house, and lastly a dessert House. For those who are unfamiliar with how it works. It's simple. You participate in four course meal with each course being in a different home. We spend 55 mins in one house and then move to the next house. The hosts DO NOT provide any meals\*. All meals are brought to the homes by those who participate in the progressive dinner. Before I start asking for food, I ask for the homes in which we can partake in the festivities.

When: Saturday, December 5th, 2009  
 Where: Four lucky homes to be decided.  
 Time: 6:00-6:55 Appetizer / Cocktails  
 7:00-7:55 Soup / Salad  
 8:00-9:00 Entree  
 9:10-10:10 Dessert ...or till the host asks everyone to leave.

So, I ask in the spirit of the holidays, anyone interested in opening their home as a host? If so, please contact me at [amsoto77@gmail.com](mailto:amsoto77@gmail.com).

Thank you,  
 Alex Soto

## 2010 JPNA Elections and Dinner at November 17 Meeting!

Elections are held each year at the November meeting to select JPNA leadership for the next year. We're still looking for folks who might be interested, especially for the executive positions! The JPNA is a 501(c)3 corporation, so these elections are crucial. If there are no officers or board members, the corporation will be dissolved and we will lose our tax exempt status. That means no more sponsors for neighborhood events, no more fundraising for neighborhood projects, probable disappearance of newsletters/eblasts/website, most of the large neighborhood events will disappear, and E. Forrest Avenue will probably slide off into the ocean.\*

If you're interested in possibly nominating yourself or someone else or you just want to learn more about the responsibilities, email Clay Davis at [jpnapresident@gmail.com](mailto:jpnapresident@gmail.com) or call him at 404.583.1537! If you want to vote, just come to the meeting!

Additionally, the 2009 JPNA board and officers will be providing the usual Thanksgiving spread for attendees. Dinner will start at 7:00, and the elections will follow shortly after. It's a very simple plan: show up, eat, vote!

\*E. Forrest will probably not slide off into the ocean.

## UPCOMING NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS AND EVENTS!

- November 3, Tuesday:** East Point General Elections for Mayor and At-Large Council Seats. Go vote!
- November 17, Tuesday:** JPNA monthly Meeting at Jefferson Ave. Baptist Church, 7:00 PM; Elections for 2010 board of directors and officers AND Thanksgiving Dinner. Why would you miss this?
- November 26, Thursday:** Thanksgiving!
- December 4, Friday:** The City of East Point Celebrates the Holidays and Tree Lighting, 5:00pm to 7:30pm Downtown area at City Hall.
- December 5, Saturday:** Winter Progressive Dinner, 6:00 PM. Email Alex Soto at [amsoto77@gmail.com](mailto:amsoto77@gmail.com) if you'd like to participate!
- December 12, Saturday :** JPNA Holiday Decorating Contest Judging
- December 15, Tuesday:** JPNA monthly Meeting at Jefferson Ave. Baptist Church, 7:00 PM
- December 25, Friday:** Christmas!

Even in a perfect world, event dates and times are subject to change. Be sure to check out [www.jeffersonpark.org](http://www.jeffersonpark.org) or sign up for the e-blast list for the most recent updates! If you know about a relevant neighborhood or East Point event not listed here, email [jpnapresident@gmail.com](mailto:jpnapresident@gmail.com).

## JPNA - [www.jeffersonpark.org](http://www.jeffersonpark.org)

The Jefferson Park Neighbors Association (JPNA) is a certified 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of social activities and community awareness. Jefferson Park is defined as the neighborhood of over 1,100 rental and privately-owned residences bordered by the Atlanta City Line to the north, Cleveland Avenue to the south, Sylvan Road to the east, and Main Street to the west. We are not a political or religious organization, and membership is open to all residents. Donations made to the JPNA are tax-deductible and should be directed to the Treasurer.

## The Grapevine

The Grapevine is the bi-monthly newsletter of the Jefferson Park Neighbors Association. We accept digital advertisements at the following rates: \$25 -1/8 page \$50...1/4 page Contact Jen Kostuch for more info: [jpnatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:jpnatreasurer@gmail.com) Advertising payments are not tax-deductible. The Grapevine welcomes unsolicited, politically neutral manuscripts, though we cannot guarantee their publication. All submissions are due the last day of the month before publication, and may be sent to [jpnapresident@gmail.com](mailto:jpnapresident@gmail.com).

## Tour of Homes Wrap Up!

The 7th Annual Jefferson Park Tour of Homes & Gardens was a huge success! We managed to raise over \$3500 for the neighborhood after all expenses. Many, many thanks to all of the homeowners and volunteers who helped to make this event happen, and also to the following sponsors who offered up support to their community in an especially difficult year to do so:

BLVD Salon  
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## Lottie Maynard Fund

The Lottie Maynard Fund is JPNA's annual holiday charitable fund, designed to assist families/individuals in Jefferson Park in need at the holidays. We need your help in identifying neighbors who may require some assistance this holiday season to provide for themselves or their families. The economy has certainly left us with no shortage of unemployed, underemployed, or otherwise struggling friends and neighbors, so this is a wonderful opportunity for us to help them out. If you or someone you know in JP

may need help this year or you'd like to help organize this effort, then please contact Jennifer Cobb at [jcobb1978@gmail.com](mailto:jcobb1978@gmail.com) or 678-360-6084.

## JPNA Holiday Decorating Contest 2009

Well folks it's that time again...time to drag out the hundreds of boxes of holiday decorations and lights, Christmas or otherwise, and "deck the halls". The JPNA Holiday Decorating Contest committee will leisurely drive throughout the neighborhood on the evening of December 12th to adjudicate the festive décor and award fabulous 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes to those who exceed all expectations in providing visual Holiday merriment and splendor to the community! So roll up your artistic sleeves and...haul out the holly!

To enter the contest, simply email Brian Frey at [Bribo1002@aol.com](mailto:Bribo1002@aol.com) and let us know that you would like for your home to be included. The more the merrier! Deadline to enter is December 10th!

## COLD WEATHER TIPS FOR OUR FURRY COMPANIONS!

WOW....the temperatures around East Point have dropped rather quickly this year, and to assure that our furry friends are kept cozy and warm, here are a few tips provided by the ASPCA.

1. During colder months, outdoor cats sometimes sleep under the hoods of cars. When the motor is started, the cat can be injured or killed by the fan belt. If there are outdoor cats in your area, bang loudly on the car hood before starting the engine to give the cat a chance to escape.
2. Thoroughly wipe off your dog's legs and stomach when he comes in out of the rain, snow or ice. He can ingest salt, antifreeze or other potentially dangerous chemicals while licking his paws, and his paw pads may also bleed from snow or encrusted ice.
3. Never shave your dog down to the skin in winter, as a longer coat will provide more warmth.

4. Own a short-haired breed? Consider getting him a coat or sweater with a high collar or turtleneck with coverage from the base of the tail to the belly.
5. Never leave your dog or cat alone in a car during cold weather
6. Does your dog spend a lot of time engaged in outdoor activities? Increase his supply of food, particularly protein, to keep him—and his fur—in tip-top shape.
7. Like coolant, antifreeze is a lethal poison for dogs and cats. Be sure to thoroughly clean up any spills from your vehicle, and consider using products that contain propylene glycol rather than ethylene glycol. Visit the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center more information.
8. Make sure your companion animal has a warm place to sleep, off the floor and away from all drafts. A cozy dog or cat bed with a warm blanket or pillow is perfect.

### Next Meeting

The Jefferson Park Neighbor's Association meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month, in the Fellowship Hall of the Jefferson Ave. Baptist Church. Park on the lower level off of Winburn Dr., and enter through the glass door. The November meeting is on the 17th. The December meeting is on the 15th. Meetings last 90 minutes on average.

### Get the Latest News

To sign up for the JPNA e-blast list and get the most recent, timely neighborhood news, visit [www.jeffersonpark.org](http://www.jeffersonpark.org) or email [jpnapresident@gmail.com](mailto:jpnapresident@gmail.com)



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### FOCUS ON YOUR NEIGHBORS:

“name here”

Each month, the writers for the Grapevine would like to feature one of you, our neighbors, in this section of the newsletter. Have you ever wanted to know more about those wonderful neighbors that live next door, or would you like to nominate a neighbor to be featured because there is

something about them, their careers or hobby’s that you would love for them to share with the community? Is your neighbor an original Jefferson Park resident? Of course, we would need their consent, but talk to them and feel free to submit to us your suggestions. We want to hear from you! Email [jpnapresident@gmail.com](mailto:jpnapresident@gmail.com) with your suggestions and a means to get in touch with them, or if you’d be interested in contributing a profile.




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## JPNA HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS FOR YOU AND YOURS

As the holidays are approaching, we here at the GrapeVine have searched the web and come up with some holiday safety tips to make celebrating these wonderful times with family and friends safe and happy for all in our community.

### HOLIDAY TREES

1. When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "Fire Resistant."
2. When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness. A fresh tree is green, needles are hard to pull from branches and when bent between your fingers, needles do not break.
3. When setting up a tree at home, place it away from fireplaces, radiators or portable heaters.
4. Cut a few inches off the trunk of your tree to expose the fresh wood and allow for better water absorption.
5. Be sure to keep the stand filled with water, because heated rooms can dry live trees out rapidly.

### LIGHTS

1. Check all tree lights, even new ones, to be sure all the bulbs work and that there are no frayed wires, broken sockets or loose connections.
2. Never use electric lights on a metallic tree.
3. Before using lights outdoors, check labels to be sure they have been certified for outdoor use.
4. Plug all outdoor electric decorations into circuits with ground fault circuit interrupters to avoid potential shocks.
5. Turn off all lights when you go to bed or leave the house.

### YOUR FIREPLACE

- It is always best to decorate a mantel with artificial materials, as live greens dry out quickly and can become a fire hazard.
- Never burn evergreen wood or pine (trimmings from your live tree) in a fireplace. The sap can explode and cause a fire.
- Use care with "fire salts," as they contain heavy metals that can cause intense gastrointestinal irritation and vomiting if eaten. Keep them away from children and pets.
- Be sure that combustible materials are placed away from the fireplace.

## 2009 JP Mixer Wrap Up!

Tondra Vest 2009 JPNA Board Member

The Summer Mixers were a huge success! Thank you to everyone who came out to mix and mingle with neighbors new to our hood, and those of us who have been proud JPers for a while. None of this could have been possible without the very generous support of some special businesses that opened their doors and kitchens to us. A huge thank you to Noodle (June Mixer), The Corner Tavern (July Mixer), Brake Pad (August Mixer), and Manchester Arms (September Mixer).

To show our appreciation, please continue to support them with your patronage!

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